

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 21, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

We write to express our strong support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application for Louisiana Highway 1 (LA 1).

The requested INFRA funding will provide for the elevation of a section of LA 1 between Golden Meadow and Leeville, Louisiana. LA 1 is the sole-access highway to America's busiest intermodal energy port, Port Fourchon. Ensuring access to the port, which services over 90 percent of our nation's offshore energy exploration and production, will directly support President Trump's larger plan for American energy dominance. LA 1 is also the only highway providing ground support to the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port's (LOOP) marine terminal. LOOP is the first and only offshore crude oil export facility in the United States. As you know, our ability to export crude oil has been critical to America's energy security and has helped to stabilize oil markets across the world.

This section of LA 1 has become increasingly vulnerable to inundation from coastal flooding, placing the over 35,000 Louisianans who rely on the highway as a hurricane evacuation route at risk. Moreover, since Port Fourchon is the sole service point for nearly 20 percent of the nation's domestically produced oil and natural gas, closures to LA 1 result in significant disruptions to American energy production and security.

Therefore, replacing the highway with an elevated structure built above the FEMA base flood elevation of this congressionally designated High Priority Corridor will result in significant improvements to the region and nation's economic vitality. The INFRA grant, if awarded, combined with investments from the state of Louisiana, Port Fourchon, and private industry stakeholders will help ensure there is reliable access to Port Fourchon and will enhance our nation's energy security.

This is a top priority for our delegation, and we appreciate your thoughtful consideration of Louisiana's application. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



John Kennedy
United States Senator

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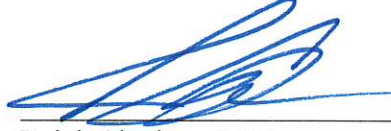
Steve Scalise
United States Congressman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cedric Richmond".

Cedric Richmond
United States Congressman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Garret Graves".

Garret Graves
United States Congressman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ralph Abraham".

Ralph Abraham, M.D.
United States Congressman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clay Higgins".

Clay Higgins
United States Congressman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Johnson".

Mike Johnson
United States Congressman